

Remarks/Arguments

The present application has been amended to reflect that it is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/023,291 filed on December 14, 2001, which claims the benefit of the priority date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/258,179, filed on December 22, 2000, entitled "Hydrogen Resistant Low Water Peak Optical Waveguide Fiber and Method of Manufacturing Same", and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/272,015, filed February 28, 2001, entitled "Low Water Peak Optical Waveguide Fiber". The present application claims priority of the foregoing applications.

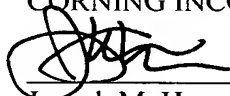
Prior to the calculation of the fee for this application, applicant requests that claims 1-16, 21, 35, and 38 be canceled without prejudice. Claims 17 - 20, 22 - 34, and 36 - 37 remain in this application. New claim 39 has been added.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this request timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this request timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Joseph M. Homa at 607-974-9061.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8: I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on

6 Feb 2004



Joseph M. Homa, Signature